

# THE WEEK IN THE UNITED STATES

## The Cotton Situation.

**C**OTTON PLANTINGS in the great producing States are being deeply cut, information reaching here from government agents shows. The planting season still has more than a month to run and anything like exact figures will be unobtainable until that time. It is evident, officials say, however, that the Southern farmer is aware of the disastrous effect of overplanting.

Cotton growers' pools, heavy exports sponsored by the War Finance Board and other arrangements for marketing the staple here and abroad, apparently will materially ease the situation as regards the great hold-over of some 10,000,000 bales from the 1920 crop. But planting of such acreages as were sown in 1920 would defeat all efforts at solving the problem, it is felt. One official of the Department of Agriculture declared recently that "a 10,000,000-bale crop this year would be a disaster."

The approximate acreage planted last year was 36,000,000 and domestic ginnings were 13,366,000 bales. Importations totalled 182,000 bales, while the carry-over from 1919 was 3,563,000 bales, according to Census Bureau figures of July 31, 1920. Domestic consumption for the first eight months of the present fiscal year are reckoned at 3,167,000 bales and exportations at 3,872,000 bales. Thus, from the available 17,111,000 bales, the carry-over was more than 10,000,000 bales. Allowing for any probable stimulation of the cotton market with regard to exportations, it can be seen from these figures upon what the official bases his statement concerning a 10,000,000-bale crop in 1921.

With the most drastic cut in acreage possible, there still will be more cotton than there is demand for, the same official declares. Mindful of this, the leaders in the growing and marketing game in the South are counselling the farmers to reduce plantings this year. In Mississippi, a cotton growers' group has asked a cut in production of 35 per cent. This is the minimum reduction possible, they believe, if the huge carry-over of last year is to be brought to normal. The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta estimates that about 60 per cent of the last crop still is in the farmers' hands.

There is a strong sentiment among agricultural leaders of the cotton belt that crops should be far more diversified than at present, reports show. It is pointed out that cotton planters are importing food and feed for laborers and stock when they could easily devote a part of their land to such production and at the same time ease the cotton market. A number of influential banks in Mississippi have issued circulars giving figures of cotton acreage cuts which should be made if a return to the normal supply and demand ratio is to come and further warning planters that no agricultural loans will be made if any considerable part of the money so obtained is to be used for buying feed for stock.

American cotton growers are not the only ones forced to hold over a great part of their crops. It has been learned that Indian and Egyptian planters are in the same plight. Europe needs cotton with other commodities in great bulk but so far depreciated exchange rates and lack of facilities for international credits have kept the major portion of these crops off the market.

## Women Strive for Welfare.

**S**UPPORT for a number of legislative proposals advocated by the Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers Associations, in session here last week, was promised by President Harding when a large delegation of the women visited the White House.

Food for thought was afforded by State presidents' reports, which showed among other things, that California is giving scholarships to keep the children of needy mothers in school, that Pennsylvania Parent-Teachers Associations are concentrating on a child hygiene and juvenile court betterment program and that Oregon is placing social hygiene work high on the list of indispensable activities of the Commonwealth.

Treasurer's reports were submitted, giving a balance of \$10,200 to carry on the work of the congress and placing the active membership throughout the United States at 25,000.

## "Soviet in College."

**D**R. DANIEL R. HODGDON, president of Valparaiso University, resigned Monday and claimed that he had been forced out of office by a student "Soviet," led by former service men maintained at the college at government expense. It appears that the student body had held a mass meeting and demanded his resignation. The charge stirred a response from the Department of Indiana, American Legion, who offered to investigate. The former service students denied that their action had savored of Bolshevism. They claimed that Dr. Hodgdon was trying to make the college aristocratic. After an investigation by the trustees the students were absolved from blame.

## ARTISTS AWARDED PRIZES



**T**HREE American painters have been awarded the prizes in the twentieth annual international exhibition at Carnegie Institute. Announcement of honors was made at the Founder's Day Exercises, April 28, as follows:

First—Ernest Lawson, New York City, "Vanishing Mist." Gold medal and \$1,500.

Second—Howard Giles, New York City, "Young Woman." Silver medal and \$1,000.

Third—Eugene Speicher, New York City, "Girl With Green Hat." Bronze medal and \$500.

Honorable Mention—R. J. Enraght Moony, London, England, "A Spring Evening;" honorable mention—Sydney Lee, London, England, "The Ruined Castle;" honorable mention—Ross E. Moffett, Provincetown, Mass., "The Old Fisherman."

From the 633 pictures submitted, 385 are hung. Of this number, 182 are by foreign artists from England, Scotland, France, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Spain and Sweden. The late J. Francis Murphy is represented by a group of seven canvases—very excellent examples of the work of this great American landscape painter. The work of John Singer Sargent is represented by four portraits, among which is his famous painting of Carolus Duran. The honor of the "one-man exhibit" has, this year, been given to the French painter, Henri Eugene Le Sidaner. This personal group contains twenty-five canvases. The entrance halls to the galleries are devoted to examples of sculpture by two very well known Americans, the late Augustus Saint Gaudens and the contemporary sculptor, James Earle Fraser.

The exhibition opened Founder's Day, April 28, and will continue until June 30, inclusive.

## Charges "Capital Combine."

That a "capital combine" headed by New York financial institutions, launched a policy of nation-wide shutdowns, was the charge made by W. Jett Lauck, economist for the railroad brotherhoods, before the United States Railway Labor Board, in fighting any reduction in wages.

Mr. Lauck contended that about 100 men through interlocking directorships, centered in these dozen institutions, control the majority of the country's important railroads and of basic raw material. "This interrelated capital group deliberately deflated the farmers and then undertook by precipitating industrial stagnation to deflate labor," he declared.

## Harding Reviews Fleet.

**P**RESIDENT HARDING reviewed the Atlantic Fleet in Hampton Roads Thursday morning. Eleven battleships and forty other war craft sailed past the Presidential yacht, the Mayflower, anchored off Thimble Light. The U. S. S. Pennsylvania, flagship of Admiral Henry B. Wilson, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, was in the lead. As each ship came opposite the Mayflower the Presidential salute of twenty-one guns was fired.

The major portion of the fleet has been engaged, since early February, in fleet maneuvers in Cuban waters, based on Guantanamo. Much time was devoted to gunnery exercises. Both day and night firing was practised. A large number of men received small arms practice at the Guantanamo naval station.

His trip to review the fleet was President Harding's first cruise on the Presidential yacht.

## Medals Given Scientists.

**T**HE HIGHEST AWARDS offered in American science were bestowed at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Sciences in Washington Tuesday night. Six gold medals were presented. Dr. Albert Einstein, discoverer of the theory of relativity, and his serene highness, the Prince of Monaco, celebrated student of ocean science, were rewarded. Others rewarded were Rear Admiral D. C. Sigsbee, hero of the Maine, for his researches in sea sounding; Dr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian institution; Dr. Robert Ridgway, prominent ornithologist; Dr. C. C. Stiles, zoologist, who has made extensive studies on the hookworm question, and Dr. P. Zeeman, of Amsterdam, Holland, astronomer.

## Savings Director Resigns.

The Secretary of the Treasury last week accepted "with a great deal of regret" the resignation of William Mather Lewis as director of the saving division of the department, effective today. Mr. Lewis will become associated with the United States Chamber of Commerce, with headquarters here.

In his work as head of the government campaign for thrift, savings and sound investment, the retiring director has performed "effectively and constructively," Mr. Mellon declared in his note of acceptance.

## National Bank Changes.

**F**IVE charters for national banks were issued during the week ending Thursday by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency as follows: Union National Bank of Okmulgee, Okla., capital, \$100,000; First National Bank of Brea, Cal., \$25,000; City National Bank of Mexia, Tex., \$100,000, Commercial Exchange National Bank of New York (conversion of Commercial Exchange Bank), \$700,000, and Peoples' National Bank of Osceola Mills, Pa., \$50,000.

Applications for organization were approved in the case of the five following banks: Eastern National Bank of Boston, Mass., capital \$200,000; First National Bank of Anchorage, Ala., \$50,000; First National Bank of Zeigler, Ill., \$35,000, Douglass National Bank of Chicago, Ill., \$200,000 and the National Bank of Woodlawn of Chicago, Ill., \$300,000.

There were recorded two voluntary liquidations, one application to convert, one conversion application approved, six tentensions of corporate existence, and two re-extensions of corporate existence.

## Daughters of 1812.

Adoption of resolutions favoring preparedness, teaching of citizenship principles to public school children and exclusion of dyes and chemicals of German manufacture from the United States were among the important "America First" moves made by the Associated Council of the National Society of Daughters of 1812, in session here last week.

Future headquarters of the organization will be in the Capital, it was announced, and request will be made for assignment of quarters in the projected George Washington Memorial Building, funds for the construction of which the Daughters will help raise.

A visit to the White House was followed by election of the following officers: Mrs. Clarence F. R. Jenne, Connecticut, president; Mrs. Samuel W. Goodwin, Virginia, second vice president; Mrs. Henry James Carry, Pennsylvania, fourth vice president; Mrs. William V. Jones, Oregon, librarian, and Mrs. George F. Walker, Maine, curator.

## Storm Wipes Out Village.

The village of Braxton, Miss., twenty-five miles south of Jackson, was wiped out Tuesday by a tornado which swept over a path a quarter of a mile wide. The death list, according to latest reports, has reached eighteen. Only three houses were left standing. Over fifty were injured.